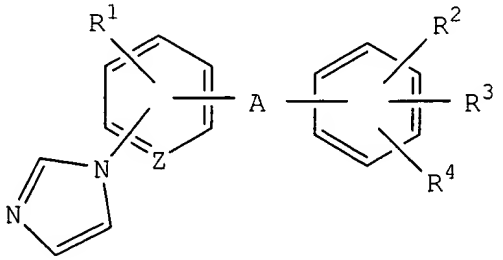
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A ~~MAG expression promoter~~ method of promoting expression of MAG comprising administering a compound of the formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group or an alkoxy group;

R^2 and R^3 are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R^4 is an alkyl group, -COOH, $-COOR^5$, $-CONR^6R^7$, $-CH_2NR^6R^7$, $-CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2OR^8$;

wherein R^5 and ~~R^6~~ R^8 are each an alkyl group, and R^6 and R^7 are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, or R^6 and R^7 in combination form imidazole together with the adjacent nitrogen atom;

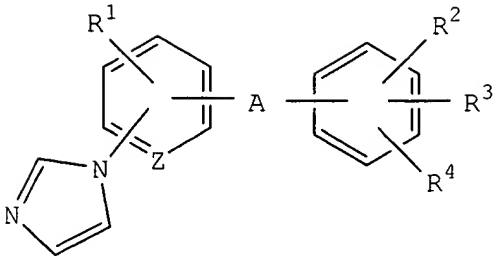
A is -CH(OH)-, -C(=O)- or $-CH_2-$; and

Z is =CH- or =N-,

an optically active form thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to a mammal.

2-9. (Cancel)

10. (Currently amended) A method for ~~prophylaxis and/or therapy of a disease caused by hypomyelination~~ promoting a myelination of axon, which method comprises administering a compound of the formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group or an alkoxy group;

R^2 and R^3 are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R^4 is an alkyl group, -COOH, $-COOR^5$, $-CONR^6R^7$, $-CH_2NR^6R^7$, $-CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2OR^8$;

wherein R^5 and ~~R^6~~ R^8 are each an alkyl group, and R^6 and R^7 are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, or R^6 and R^7 in combination form imidazole together with the adjacent nitrogen atom;

A is -CH(OH)-, -C(=O)- or $-CH_2-$; and

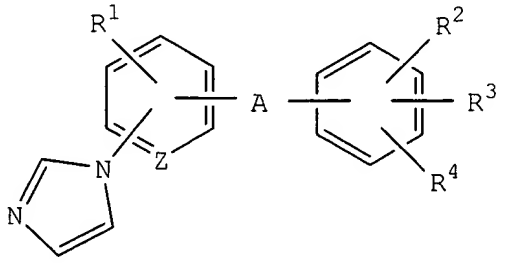
Z is =CH- or =N-,

an optically active form thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to ~~mammals inclusive of human~~ a mammal.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein, in the formula (I), R^1 is a halogen atom, an alkyl group or an alkoxy group.

12. (Currently amended) A method for ~~prophylaxis and/or therapy of a disease caused by hypomyelination~~ promoting a myelination of axon, which method comprises administering 4-[α-hydroxy-5-(1-imidazolyl)-2-methylbenzyl]-3,5-dimethylbenzoic acid, an optically active form thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to ~~mammals inclusive of human~~ a mammal.

13. (Currently amended) A method for ~~prophylaxis and/or therapy of a disease mainly presenting dysmyelination or demyelination~~ promoting a myelination of axon, which method comprises administering a compound of the formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group or an alkoxy group;

R^2 and R^3 are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R^4 is an alkyl group, -COOH, $-COOR^5$, $-CONR^6R^7$, $-CH_2NR^6R^7$, $-CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2OR^8$;

wherein R^5 and ~~R^6~~ R^8 are each an alkyl group, and R^6 and R^7 are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, or R^6 and R^7 in combination form imidazole together with the adjacent nitrogen atom;

A is -CH(OH)-, -C(=O)- or $-CH_2-$; and

Z is =CH- or =N-,

an optically active form thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to ~~mammals inclusive of human~~ a mammal.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein, in the formula (I), R^1 is a halogen atom, an alkyl group or an alkoxy group.

15. (Currently amended) A method for ~~prophylaxis and/or therapy of a disease mainly presenting dysmyelination or demyelination~~ promoting a myelination of axon, which method comprises administering 4-[α-hydroxy-5-(1-imidazolyl)-2-methylbenzyl]-3,5-dimethylbenzoic acid, an optically active form thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to ~~mammals inclusive of human~~ a mammal.

16-18. (Cancel)

19-30. (Cancelled)

31-36. (Cancel)

37. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the mammal is a human.

38. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the mammal is a human.

39. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the mammal is a human.

40. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the mammal is a human.